



## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

### JUDICIAL PROCEDURES COMMISSION

383 Hall of Administration/500 West Temple Street/Los Angeles, California 90012 / (213) 974-1431

### MINUTES OF THE 679<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE JUDICIAL PROCEDURES COMMISSION

The 679<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Los Angeles County Judicial Procedures Commission was held on February 15, 2007, in Room 140 of the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California. A list of those present follows:

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Bertrum M. CeDillos, Chair  
Nelson L. Atkins, Vice Chair  
Gary L. Barr  
Andrew Friedman  
William J. Galloway  
Ann Jackson  
Paul A. Jacobs  
Thomas J. Jeffers  
Neal S. Millard  
Carol L. Rose  
Sylvia Scott-Hayes

#### **MEMBERS EXCUSED**

Clifton Albright

#### MEMBERS

Bertrum M. CeDillos  
*Chair*

Nelson L. Atkins  
*Vice Chair*

Clifton Albright  
Andrew Friedman  
Gary L. Barr  
William J. Galloway  
Ann Jackson  
Paul A. Jacobs  
Thomas J. Jeffers  
Neal S. Millard  
Carol L. Rose  
Sylvia Scott-Hayes

#### **EX OFFICIO MEMBERS**

Heather Aubry, City Attorney's Office  
Devallis Rutledge, District Attorney's Office

#### **COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES**

Honorable James Endman, Superior Court  
Honorable Dennis Zine, Independent Cities Association  
Ramon Quintana, Public Defender  
Zoe Venhuizen, Superior Court

#### **STAFF**

Sandra Barbee, Division Chief  
Martha Arana, Staff

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair CeDillos called the 679<sup>th</sup> regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Judicial Procedures Commission (JPC) to order at 12:36 p.m.

#### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Jackson led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance. Introductions of the Commissioners, Ex Officio Members, Staff and Guests followed.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 18, 2007**

On motion of Commissioner Barr, seconded by Commissioner Millard, and unanimously carried, the minutes for the meeting of January 18, 2007 were approved as submitted.

**GUEST SPEAKER, THE HONORABLE DENNIS P. ZINE, COUNCILMAN,  
3<sup>RD</sup> DISTRICT "OVERVIEW OF THE INDEPENDENT CITIES ASSOCIATION"**

Chair CeDillos welcomed and introduced the Honorable Dennis P. Zine, Councilman for the 3<sup>rd</sup> District, and President of the Independent Cities' Association, who currently serves as an Ex Officio Member of the Judicial Procedures Commission.

Councilman Zine gave an overview of ICA and reported that the association was created in 1961 by former City Chief Legislative Officer Kenneth Spiker Sr. as a nonprofit organization that offers cohesiveness among independent cities. With a Board of Directors consisting of 20, the ICA represents over 7 million people and more than 50 cities in Southern California. The association offers networking opportunities, provides information on legislative issues, and aides the cities in the implementation of effective programs. Through educational materials, interaction with city representatives, and regional media outreach, ICA delivers a wealth of information and opportunities to its member cities.

ICA conducts monthly meetings where the Board of Directors discuss topics of common interest to the cities they represent, such as housing, land use, transportation, roads and highways, and school security -- all at a regional level.

ICA holds two annual seminars -- one in the winter and one in the summer. The winter seminar is held in Santa Barbara. The focus is public safety. The summer seminar is held in Rancho San Bernardo where the focus is public housing. To build an information network for the independent cities, subject matter experts, stakeholders, and city officials are invited to attend the seminars. Public and private organizations carefully selected by ICA are also invited, thus, facilitating products, legislation, services, and information for the cities. Member cities are assessed a fee ranging from approximately \$500 to \$5000 to participate in the seminars. Fees are calculated and structured based on the amount of \$.420 per capita.

ICA was in the need of a marketing logo; Councilman Zine in conjunction with the Board of Directors created and designed the logo featured on all ICA material. The logo has become an excellent marketing tool for the association. Monthly ICA bulletins delivered via e-mail and U.S. mail are sent to all City Mayors, Council members, City Managers, and members of ICA, propagating vital information on legislative issues in Sacramento, Bond infrastructure, as well as information on the Governor's Proposed Spending Plan. Councilman Zine shared copies of the January-February 2006 issue of the Bulletin with the Commission.

Councilman Zine concluded his presentation reporting that a future ICA endeavor includes the creation of a Political Action Committee, and shared the ICA's motto, *"The mission of the Independent Cities Association is to educate, advocate, and provide information on issues of common concern. We will work in cooperation with one another and all levels of government to achieve goals and provide services that are mutually beneficial to our members."*

After a question and answer forum, Councilman Zine added the following:

- In addition to serving as President to the ICA, he represents the association in the California League of Cities and sits on the Board for the National League of Cities, creating a network that benefits member cities.
- The Executive Staff consists of one Executive Director that manages the operations of the association with the assistance of one *pro bono* attorney. In addition, the services of Rice/Englander and Associates are used to produce the bulletin.
- ICA welcomes Cities, who believe they can benefit from ICA, to become members.

Chair CeDillos thanked Councilman Zine for his informative presentation.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES**

#### *Discussion on Court's Online Fees-Commissioner - Paul A. Jacobs*

Commissioner Jacobs commented on an article published by the Los Angeles Times, in December 2006, relating to the fees charged by the Superior Court in the County of Los Angeles, and added the following:

- The article reported that the Los Angeles County Superior Court is the only system that charges a fee for online civil index searches.
- While other Counties do not assess a fee for this service, the Los Angeles County court system is generating millions of dollars for this service.

Commissioner Jacobs expressed that after conducting research and speaking with court personnel, he concluded that the fees are reasonable. Revenue generated by the Courts for this service is used to expand existing access programs, and a fee of \$4.75 for each name index search is appropriate.

### **MATTERS NOT ON THE POSTED AGENDA (TO BE PRESENTED AND PLACED ON A FUTURE AGENDA)**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the 679<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Judicial Procedures Commission adjourned at 1:31 p.m.